# Strategic Plan

# Aging Services Lincoln Area Agency on Aging

City of Lincoln Lancaster County, Nebraska

also serving

Butler County
Fillmore County
Polk County
Saline County
Saunders County
Seward County
York County

*Three Year Plan* 2002 - 2005

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## Strategic Plan Steering Committee

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## INTRODUCTION

## History and Structure

Lincoln Area Agency on Aging, hereinafter referred to as Aging Services, began in 1971 as one of ten federal model programs on aging. Aging Services is the designated area agency for Planning and Services, Area B, in Nebraska. This area includes the counties of Butler, Fillmore, Lancaster, Polk, Saline, Saunders, Seward and York.

Funding for the operation of Aging Services comes from a combination of grants and/or direct support from federal, state and local governments, and from private contributions. Most of the federal funding is obtained under the Older American's Act.

Aging Services is a division of the City of Lincoln and is, therefore, directly responsible to the Mayor and the City Council of Lincoln. In addition, as Aging Services is one of the eight area agencies on aging in the State of Nebraska, Aging Services is responsible to the State of Nebraska's Health and Human Services, Division on Aging. This Division, in turn, is responsible for the coordination, monitoring and evaluation of program services supported under the federal government's Older American's Act of 1965, as amended. Finally, Aging Services is responsible to the eight County Boards that have signed inter-local agreements with the City of Lincoln.

Representation of the public, especially older adults, in the development and administration of the area agency plans is provided through Aging Services's Area-wide Advisory Council and through open public hearings. The Area-wide Advisory Council is composed of representatives of program participants and the general public who are appointed jointly by the Mayor and the City Council of Lincoln and the County Boards.

## Strategic Planning Process

Strategic Planning is a process by which members of an organization envision its future and develop the necessary procedures and operations to achieve that future.

The Strategic Plan for Aging Services - Lincoln Area Agency on Aging is the result of such process which commenced in October of 2001 at an All Agency Retreat. During this Retreat all staff and advisory members were asked to look at the agency in terms of goals. The input from the Retreat, together with follow up meetings with staff, and planning meeting with the Planning Workgroup, has produced the Values and Goals included in this document. The Mission Statement was drafted four years ago and was not changed. The Mission Statement, Values and Goals are presented to serve as guidelines and as tools in setting priorities and decision making for Aging Service's programs in the future.

The Organizational Charts are included to provide an overview of the entire agency in terms of the divisions within the agency and the programs that are included within each of the divisions.

If there are any questions regarding this Strategic Plan, please contact any member of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee.

## MISSION STATEMENT ...

. . .the Mission Statement is a concise and focused statement that defines the organizations's purpose; the Mission Statement reflects the organization's essence and reason for being.

Aging Services - Lincoln Area Agency on Aging is the principal agency that plans, coordinates and advocates for older people in our eight county area.

Our Mission is to enhance daily living, expand personal choices and educate the community in an effort to ensure independence and full life of the people we serve.

## VALUES ...

. . . values are the guilding principles that set the standards for the organization's quality of work.

We value age and aging.

We value older adults and recognize their contributions to our communities: past, present and future.

We value and respect the human dignity of the individuals we serve, the staff and the volunteers.

We value the ability to provide services in a knowledgeable and caring manner and to use our human and fiscal resources efficiently and responsibly.

We value innovation in our everyday work and the ability to respond to emerging needs of older adults and their communities.

We value the diversity of our clients, staff and volunteers.

We value the uniqueness and the contribution of each older person we serve, and we are committed to offering choices whenever possible.

We value the contributions communities make in meeting the needs of their older residents, and we respect their right to decide how to meet those needs.

We value our ability to be a leading resource in our communities on aging issues in educating older adults, their families and the public.

## GOALS...

... goals are broadly-oriented, yet specific statements chosen to reflect the desired future in the context of the Mission Statement.

### Goal 1

People of all ages and circumstances know about Aging Services and what we have to offer.

#### Goal 2

Older adults and their natural support systems know and utilize information about nutrition, fitness, health care, employment, transportation, services and activities.

#### Goal 3

Aging Services utilizes an array of community resources and relationships to expand our capacity to serve older adults.

### Goal 4

Aging Services is fiscally sound, diversely funded, and operates at optimal capacity.

#### Goal 5

Aging Services provides and advocates for fully accessible services that foster self-determination, choices and cultural competency.

#### Goal 6

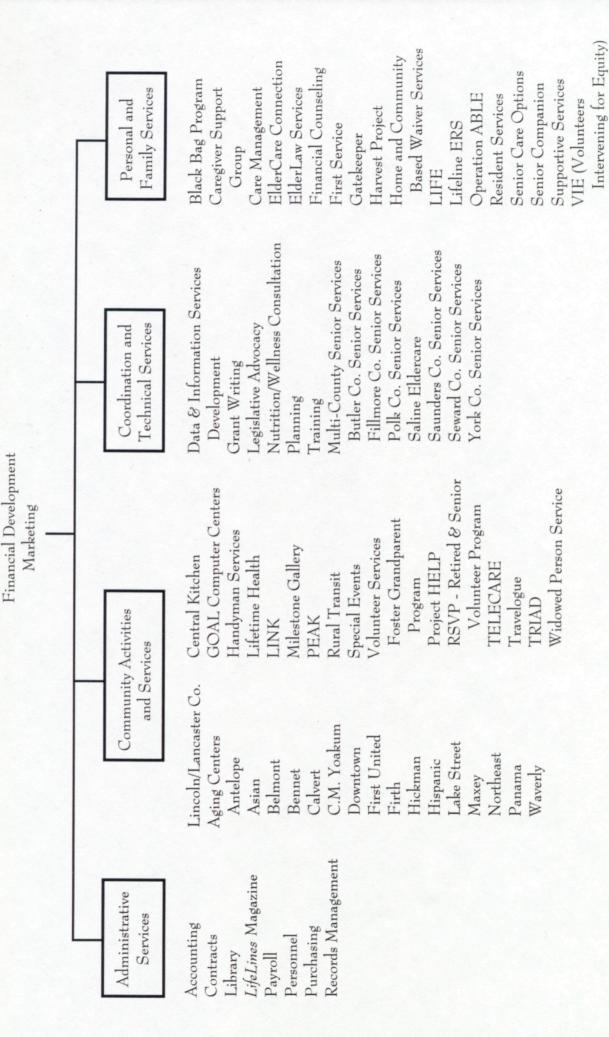
Aging Services values its internal resources and ensures best practices through employee interaction and organizational and staff development.

#### Goal 7

Aging Services provides facilities for clients and staff that are easily accessible, physically comfortable and aesthetically pleasing.

#### Goal 8

Aging Services promotes the integration of older adults within the community through meaningful volunteer experiences.



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